



Olympia Fellowship of RECONCILIATION

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September 2016

Dear friend of the Olympia FOR,

While some non-profit organizations slow down for the summer, the Olympia Fellowship of Reconciliation kept moving ahead this summer with a variety of activities, including:

- We built two powerfully informative and visually compelling **climate information floats** for Lakefair, but when Lakefair officials denied our participation in their July 16 parade, we got publicity in KING-TV and we displayed them publicly several times later in the summer.
- We staffed our **public outreach booth** at Capital City Pride Fest on June 18-19, focusing on the death penalty.
- We staffed our **public outreach booth** at Love Our Local Fest in NE Olympia on August 21
- We staffed our **public outreach booth** at Harbor Days on Olympia's waterfront on September 2-3-4
- We held our annual **potluck picnic** on August 10 in Priest Point Park.
- Our "**Global Days of Listening**" (www.globaldaysoflistening.org) continued connecting people around the world, including Afghanistan (www.ourjourneytosmile.com) and other areas of conflict, on the 21st morning of each month.
- Our "**Confronting the Climate Crisis**" group continued meeting at the Olympia Center at 6:30 pm on the third Wednesday evening of each month. We worked on various strategically useful activities to protect the climate.
- Our **climate group's Direct Action group** continued meeting and planning many more activities, including the Lakefair floats, public bannering over I-5 starting in September, and more.
- Our "**Committee for Alternatives to the Death Penalty**" met to organize more progress toward abolishing the death penalty, including plans to meet with legislative candidates and conduct statewide outreach.
- Our **book discussion group** continued discussing books on different topics at 6:00 pm the first Tuesday evening each month.
- We continued **vigiling for peace two times every week** (every Wednesday from 12 to 1 pm in Sylvester Park, Legion & Capitol Way, and every Friday from 4:30 to 6:00 pm near Percival Landing's Kissing Statue, 4th & Water), with highly visible messages of peace and nonviolence. Passing motorists and pedestrians continue to respond warmly to us. Each vigil attracts new people for conversations and sometimes ongoing participation by those who join our vigils and mailing list.
- Our **monthly TV programs** continuously reached out to the general public in their own homes three times a week for Thurston County's cable TV subscribers. Also, people anywhere can watch new and previous TV programs through www.olympiafor.org. Summer's topics were "TPP and Other 'Free Trade' Schemes Endanger Us All" (June); "Nisqually Canoe Journey" (July), "How Science and Art Explain the Carbon Cycle and Climate" (Aug.), and "How to Reduce Gun Violence" (Sept.).
- We continued publishing **bimonthly newsletters**, mailing copies to hundreds of people, sending .pdf versions to a great many more people, distributing copies to new people, and posting newsletters to our website so people anywhere can read them.
- Our **website, www.olympiafor.org**, kept adding new material on a variety of issues.
- We sent several **e-mail calendar listings of "COMING EVENTS"** to Olympia FOR's e-mail list and some other lists.
- We continued to be a **reliable source of information and networking** for people who contact us for help with a wide variety of issues related to peace, social justice and nonviolence.
- We decided to **co-sponsor and financially support the 2016 Olympia Arab Festival**, organized by the Rachel Corrie Foundation for Peace and Justice, coming on Saturday October 8.
- We took the lead in **planning the Western Washington FOR's annual Fall Retreat** in Lacey for Saturday November 12 with the theme, "**Interracial and Intergenerational Movement Building: Weaving Action into Our Lives**"

Yes, the Olympia FOR stays continually active in many ways. If you like what the Olympia FOR is doing, we warmly encourage you to support our work. Instead of charging dues or hiring paid staff, we rely on volunteer labor and voluntary contributions. Each person can help in whatever ways they can.

Contributions to Olympia FOR are tax-deductible as allowed by law.

Thanks to everyone for helping the Olympia FOR work for social justice, nonviolence and peace!

Sincerely, The Olympia FOR Steering Committee:

Rozanne Rants (Co-Chair), Kerri Griffis, (Co-Chair),

Kim Dobson, Holly Gwinn Graham, Bev Bassett, Chris Carson, Glen Anderson, Regon Unsoeld,

Bourtai Hargrove, Kristen Dahle, Andrew Burgess, Marilyn Dungan, Jean Gant Delastrada, Bob Delastrada

YES! *I support the Olympia FOR's work for nonviolence, social justice, and peace.*

Donations are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

Today I'm contributing \$500 \$200 \$100 \$50 \$35 \$20 Other: \$_____

For the next 12 months I pledge \$_____ per quarter \$_____ per month

Print name

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Please make check payable to **Olympia FOR**. Send to **Olympia FOR, PO Box 7273, Olympia WA 98507-7273**

Thank You!